(e) whether any action has been taken against certain firms or persons in the spurious drugs supply case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) CGHS gets pre-tested drugs from its suppliers. The CGHS Medical Store Depot (MSD) randomly picks up drug samples or when complaints are received and sends them for testing. If the test report is not satisfactory, the drug is declared substandard and the CGHS MSD suspends the use of the substandard drug and informs the supplying agency and the Drugs Controller General (India) for taking appropriate action. During the current year, out of 66 samples tested, 5 have been declared substandard.

The Zonal Officers of CDSCO draw samples randomly from the CGHS dispensaries from time to time to validate the quality of drugs and forward them to the testing labs for the purpose of test/analysis.

As per the feedback given by the Zonal Officers of CDSCO for the period 2003-2004, 241 samples were taken for test/analysis out of which 100 samples were declared to be of standard quality, 7 samples were declared to be not of standard quality whereas only one sample, which does not pertain to the CGHS, was declared to be spurious by the Govt. analyst. On receipt of the report from the Govt. analyst, CDSCO, North Zone have initiated necessary mandatory action as per the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules thereunder. The results of analysis of the remaining 133 samples out of 241 samples have not been received from the different Central testing laboratories.

Strike by CGHS authorised medical stores

571. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medical stores authorized to supply medicines (both indented and other medicine) to C.G.H.S. dispensaries were on strike recently;

(b) if so, the reasons for their strike and whether the normal supply of CGHS medicines has been restored;

(c) whether it is also a fact that supply of medicine by these stores to certain area in North-West Delhi, particularly, Rohini, Pitampura, Saraswati Vihar, etc., has not been restored so far; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Adequate quantity of medicines are available in CGHS dispensaries. However, any drug prescribed by the specialists and not available in the dispensary is made available to the beneficiary from the Authorised local Chemist on the basis of individual prescription.

The Authorised Local Chemists of CGHS Delhi were on strike from 8.3.2004 to 4.4.2004. The reason for the strike cited by the authorised local chemists is late payment of their bills by the CGHS Directorate.

The authorised local chemists have resumed medical supplies. However, due to non-availability of authorised local chemists in the following CGHS dispensaries, supply of local purchase medicines has not resumed:—

i) Shakurbasti
ii) Rohini
iii) Pitampura
iv) Telegraph lane
v) Constitution House, and
vi) Dr. Z.H. Road

Orders have been issued allowing the beneficiaries attached to the above dispensaries to purchase medicines from the open market and thereafter claim reimbursement from the Government.

AIDS awarness

572. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite sufficient inflow of funds and publicity, AIDS incidents in the country are on the increase;